VOL. II

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# THE CALIFORNIA ECLECTIC MEDICAL JOURNAL

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Journals	Price	Club
		Rate
Amer. Med. Jour., 5255 Page Ave., St. Louis, M.	Mo\$1.00	\$ .80
Cal. Ec. Med. Jour., 818 Security Bldg., Los A:	ngeles 1.00	1.00
Chic. Med. Times, 412 Fulton St., Chicago, Ill	1.50	1.20
Eclectic Med. Gleaner, 224 Court St., Cinti.,		1.00
Eclectic Med. Journal, 1009 Plum St., Cinti.,	0 2.00	1.60
Eclectic Review, 140 W. 71st St., New York, N	Y 1.00	.80
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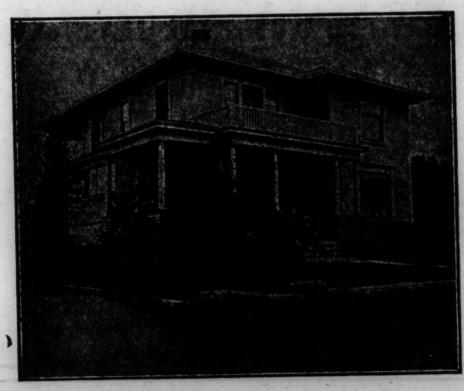
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### The Treatment:

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# The California Eclectic Medical Journal

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### \* Original Contributions

### DELIRIUM TREMENS.

W. B. CHURCH, M.D., Cincinnati, Ohio.

It is plain to be seen that the treatment of disease by the doctors of a time, quite within the memory of man, actually contributed to its fatality. Indeed there is some ground to fear that it may be equally apparent to our posterity, thirty or forty years hence, that present methods of treatment are by no means free from the same tendency. In regard to no condition could the charge be more easily substantiated than by reference to the treatment of delirium tremens. The premonitory symptoms are excessive nervousness and sleeplessness. Indeed, insomnia is a cardinal symptom. The victims are haggard and worn, complaining most of all of inability to sleep. Alcoholic excesses do not always produce tremens. It is the effect of alcohol upon unstable nervous systems, and does not manifest itself until from acute gastritis there is inability to retain and digest food. The delirium is especially distinguished by manifestations of fear. The tremor affects most the hands, arms, lips and tongue. There is double or impaired vision; and this leads to numerous accidents; but the pain sense is apparently lost. The complex of symptoms indicates exhaustion of nerve centers. it was considered on account of the violence of symptoms, referring mostly to the brain, to demand the most energetic antiphlogistic treatment. Opium and the lancet were the weapons of attack, and were both plied with reckless heroism. Fifty to a hundred ounces of blood were drawn in from three to four days, and at the same time incredible doses of opium were repeated, until the unhappy patient was forced into a state of stupor, which often terminated in death. The inevitable reaction from such deadly methods led to a supporting treatment; beef tea and such other nourishment as could be assimilated, with the substitution of bromides and hydrate of chloral for the opium. While this is a great improvement on the old methods, and gives the patient a chance to survive, it is not apparent that recovery is to any marked extent due to the treatment. There is lacking that immediate response to remedies which forces conviction of real relation or connection. Rather a gradual return to normal as a natural sequence.

For many years the writer has made use of a single remedy, which has given such complete satisfaction in this disease, that he has made several attempts to secure more general adoption of it by the profession. At present he does not know how general its use may be, but he has recently learned that an eminent physician of Hot Springs, Arkansas, has employed it regularly for years, giving digitalis tr. 3 ss doses.

I have several times in state and national societies called attention to it with no other apparent result than to arouse immediate unfavorable criticism, alleging great rashness, or exaggeration, or both. However, additional experience, each succeeding year, has so confirmed the superiority of the treatment over that in vogue, that I concluded to make another attempt to call the attention of my brother physicians to it; trusting it will receive more consideration when given a place in the Journal than it did when injected into a discussion in the hurry and bustle of a convention. Bx Specific med. digitalis 3ii-iii Sig. at a dose, repeat in three hours if necessary.

Very rarely has a second dose been necessary, in fact I do not recall a case that failed inside of an hour to fall into a peaceful and quiet sleep that lasted without intermission several hours.

The patient awakes rational and in all respects convalescent. As usually treated the task of the necessary nurses and attendants is arduous and prolonged for several days and nights. Under the treatment advised, a single attendant will have no occasion to interfere or do more than watch the gradual process by which exhausted nerve force is restored by nature's method of refreshing slumber.

Students in the class room are taught to administer the full dose of 3iii in severe cases, without hesitation or fear of con-

sequences.

The number of specifics in medicine is very limited. If obliged to name another it would be the one under consideration.

### A CASE IN PRACTICE.

R. O. HOFFMAN, M.D., San Diego, California.

About eleven years ago Mrs. B——— a Scotch lady, then sixty-four years of age was cleaning a gasoline stove when a particle of iron was in some manner broken off and driven with such force that it passed through the upper lid and penetrated the eye-ball through the sclera considerably above and internal to the pupil.

The pain was intense and on removing the hand from the eye considerable blood was found on the fingers. She bathed the eye to remove the blood when a neighbor lady standing by,

asked if she could see. On covering the uninjured eye she found the sight entirely gone. The pain gradually subsided and in a couple of weeks with no treatment except cold water the wound healed and the eye remained normal except loss of sight until ten weeks ago when the conjunctiva became inflamed, the eye painful with photophobia. This continued for about four weeks when it became so bad that medical attention was considered absolutely necessary and I was called in.

Found severe inflammation of entire conjunctiva, opaque lens, extreme tension in ball, intolerance of light and considerable pain, worse at night, sometimes becoming almost unbearable, and so much disturbance in the other eye that I feared for its integrity, so advised enucleation at once. This she absolutely refused to have done and the following treatment was given.

Internally:

Sp. Echinacea 3 iii. Sp. Gelsemium gtt xx. Water qs 3 iv.

Teaspoonful every two hours during the day. Calcium Sulphide, gr. 1/4, three times a day. Locally.

Non-alcoholic Calendula 3 ss. Morphia Sul. gr. ij. Aqua, qs 3 ii.

Use in eye every two hours.

Bathe frequently with Boric Acid solution.

She described the pain as feeling like a force pump in the eye trying to pump something out, but with the opening closed up. This continued until about the second week after I had been called when there was a free discharge of light pus coming, as near as she could tell, from the old wound, but it left no opening that I could see and I did not care to use a probe.

This continued, always at night, until the fifth week, when she felt a roughness beneath the upper lip and on pulling it away a solid particle dropped to her cheek, thence to the wash pan, making a noise as if it might have been iron or steel, but her sight was not good enough to locate it.

Before this the pain and discharge had both considerably lessened, and have since entirely disappeared. The inflammation is gone and to all appearance the eye is well again.

During all this time there was no swelling of the lids or surrounding tissues, very little headache and no severe constitutional disturbances. She got but little sleep, yet remained cheerful through it all. She did not fear death, saying if it caused her death it was all right, but she feared an operation with a fear that was intensified by a mistake made immediately before she was injured and which caused her to refuse medical attention at that time.

A young man received an injury to one eye which destroyed the sight and caused so much sympathetic inflammation that it was thought necessary to remove it to save the uninjured one. He consented to the operation, and when under the anesthetic, the operator proceeded to take out the good eye, leaving him totally blind.

### MEDICAL RESOURCES OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. O. S. Laws, M D., Los Angeles, California.

There are yet a few plants indigenous to California that I am familiar with and know to be valuble remedies. The object of these short papers is to call attention to what we have here, so far as my limited knowledge goes, and invite others to add what they can, both as to additional plants or trees and a more extended notice of the value of those I have so briefly mentioned.

On many vacant lots here in the city, we have growing in abundance, every summer, one of the best remedies in our Materia Medica and indispensable in certain diseased conditions. Apocynum is its name. It has a variety of common names; bitter root, Indian hemp, and others. Edema is the most prominent indication for it and usually the single remedy will correct the abnormal condition. In some chronic cases it will work well for a few weeks and then partially lose power. Then I add oxydendron, 3i of each to 3iv of water. Still later I may add cactus in equal quantity, or more, as the case demands. But seldom will more be needed than these three even in cases of general dropsy. Apocynum may well take the place of capsella in some menstrual disorders, especially where the menses appear too soon and too much. In the worst case of dropsy I ever was called to treat, the battle was finally won by a combination of Apocynum, oxydendron, cactus and elaterium, in various proportions to keep up the effect and given in large doses. I noticed that if any one of the four was left out, the result was unfavorable. They make a bitter combination, but do splendid work.

Achillea is another familiar plant growing here, and is valuable in many unpleasant disorders of the genito-urinary tract. It is surprising what a large number of remedies of that class we have to select from. We usually confine ourselves to a few well-tried ones that have prominent indications. Probably eryngium and piper Methysticum are considered the most valuable remedies we have in their class, which is large already

and well supplied with good remedies besides these. Yet as a product of Southern California I wish to introduce a new one. It has never been classified but is called by those who use it, the "water mody." It is a shrub growing along all waterways in this part of the state. The leaves and young shoots are used by the people. They make a strong infusion and drink it by the small cupful for all kidney and bladder troubles. My attention was first called to it in San Diego County, as a remedy for Bright's disease. It had cured at least one case after the doctors had given it up as incurable. I make a tincture of the leaves and young shoots in strong alcohol, as it is somewhat resinous, and shows it when mixed in water. As a remedy it seems to combine the good points of eryngium and piper methysticum. So when I am out of one of these I feel safe in using the "water mody." I do not know that it is an "appetizer," as is claimed for piper methysticum, but that is seldom needed here in this appetizing climate.

As it grows in abundance here, I see no use in going away to South America for piper methysticum when we have something "just as good" right here at home. I will try and have a few twigs of this shrub at our annual meeting in May.

Many other plants not yet mentioned are found in some localities, such as plantain and strammonium, and no doubt deserve some notice, but I fear that it would grow monotonous. If an additional paper on this topic should be desired, it will take note of some of the plants, trees and shrubs that have been brought here from other states or countries.

# "OSTEOPATHY" WHAT IS It? W. J. LAWRENCE, M.D., Los Angeles.

(Read before the Los Angeles County Eclectic Medical Society)

From the standpoint of the average medical man, Osteopathy is regarded as a system of massage, administered by a more or less intelligent masseur, possessing some knowledge of anatomical structure. Pressing the question further, the medical man will admit that he knows very little, if anything, about the system known and practiced as Osteopathy. How can he know if he has neither studied nor investigated the subject? Thus, he sits back in his big chair and looks wise, when he tells his patients (who are suggesting something of an osteopathic nature in the way of treatment), "there is nothing in it, it's only massage, etc.," and after this manner he hides his real ignorance of the subject. But can you blame him for so doing? Yes and no. Yes; because a physician should be big enough and broad enough to investigate and recognize truth wherever found, at all times and under all circumstances. But you remark,

having done that, he would immediately take up the practice himself and apply osteopathic principles in the treatment of his patients. Nay and verily. Can an old dog learn new tricks? It is quite as difficult for an old "Doc" to take up a new science.

Then again, for reasons best known to himself he prefers to administer acetanilid or some other synthetic preparation in cases of migraine or any other case, which expresses itself in the form of pain; be it an impingement of the brachial plexus,

producing a neuritis or any other lesion.

"But," says my Homeopathic friend, "you are talking about the Allopaths. We base our treatment upon the 'totality of symptoms;' and the modern Eclectic has a 'specific remedy for a specific condition.' The Osteopath corrects the lesion, and thus removes the cause. Is not this a specific remedy?"

I will admit that there is a system of practice which appeals to the thinking man as more rational and whose adherents have some regard for their patients in dispensing medicine. Athough a few of the number have that intense itching to become "Regulars," it might be difficult, at times, to choose between them. It is within the memory of the writer when "irregulars' in medical practice were not highly esteemed by the "Regular" brethren. Almost coincident with the successful introduction of Osteopathy in the State of California, and the passage of a law regulating the practice, a merger was deemed a necessity if the integrity of the medical profession (regularly so-called), was to be maintained. So the statute of August, 1901, was enacted and lo!—a new compact was formed. The three "schools in medicine" were represented on the state board of medical examiners with the regulars in the majority; but hush, perish the thought, they are all "Regulars" now, or want to be, with few exceptions, possibly.

By the statute, enacted by the California State Legislature, in affect May 1, 1907, the Osteopaths were "regularized" and admitted to the fold. The board of medical examiners of the State of Caifornia, now consists of eleven members; five Allopaths, two Homeopaths, two Eclectics and two Osteopaths, requiring of all applicants an examination in ten fundamental

subjects.

Thus things are changed. In the language of Cooper, "Things are a workin." That a system of practice, in the application of therapeutic principles without nauseous drug taking, appeals to most people, cannot be gain-said. The success of the newer schools of drug therapy has demonstrated this fact beyond successful contradiction, during the last century, which was the greatest in the history of the world, along

all lines of scientific research and progress, in therapeutics, as

well as commercial enterprise.

The average patient when ill wants relief, and to satisfy this craving for relief from pain, we have with us the drug fiend of today, whose first "hypo" was administered or prescribed by some physician, who sought only relief; and now the poor unfortunate has fastened upon him something which is even worse than the pain, and from which he is unable to obtain deliverance, i.e., a drug habit. His nervous system is shattered, his natural resistance has gone and he is a wreck and ruin, casting about for an anchor upon the shores of time.

Therefore, a system of therapeutics embracing the study and application of Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, Bacteriology, Chemistry, Hygiene, Gynecology, Obstetrics and Dietetics, in cluding a thorough knowledge of Physical Diagnosis and the correction of anatomical lesions, adjustment of organs and tissues, such a system is Osteopathy; and as such it appeals to thinking people of today, and we find among the patrons of Osteopathic physicians, some of the most intelligent and cultured people of the world, men and women of affairs, who believe in the integrity of the body and desire to maintain it as a whole; hence they avoid drugs.

To illustrate: Mr. T., a farmer, while riding on a hay rake, received a hard jolt. When he receovered his equilibrium, found that turning his head from side to side was quite painful and movement was very much limited. Upon examination, a lesion of the atlas was found, which was corrected in one treatment and the patient had no more trouble with his neck.

Another case, Mrs. H., came into the office the same day, suffering with symptoms of Asthenopia and chronic headache, (Migraine if you please). Upon examination of the eyes it was found that she had simple Astigmatism in both eyes. Glasses were prescribed, gave relief for a time, but the old periodic headache returned. Upon further examination of the cervical region a lesion of the atlas was found. Now, please do not understand that I claim the Astigmatic condition was due to this lesion. I do not claim it, and I contend that nobody with a proper understanding of physiological optics would believe it; but the point I wish to make in these parallel cases is this: Had case No. 2 been corrected at the time immediately following the occurrence of the lesion, this patient might have been saved years of suffering.

### POTASSIUM IODIDE.

JOHN ALBERT BURNETT, M.D., Little Rock, Arkansas.

Eclectic physicians do not use potassium iodide quite as extensively as regular physicians. In many cases the organic alterative remedies are all that are needed, while in others, some inorganic alterative is needed, and if the physician desires, they can be combined and in some instances better results obtained than when either one of them is given alone. I admire suitable combinations in most all disease conditions and find almost all physicians use them.

The Eclectic, Regular and Physio-medical systems of medicine are not reduced to science, enough to prescribe single remedies exclusively and, I doubt if they ever will be. The Homeopathic physician comes nearer prescribing the single remedy than any other, and many of them alternate and combine remedies in some cases. Homeopathy is the only system of medicine that has a foundation for prescribing the single remedy, and it is the only system of medicine that has a scientific basis for prescribing drugs in any way. All the other systems prescribe in a guessing way or from the experience of what a remedy has been known to do.

I know this is speaking plainer than many will like to hear, but it is the truth and all know it, whether they will admit it or not. I can admit my part and am not a Homeopath either. The Eclectic system has borrowed much from the Homeopaths that they have not been given credit for, and when the Regulars make a steal on them of some remedy of botanic origin, they make quite a howl about the matter.

Much of the so-called specific indications for aconite, bryonia, etc., of the late Eclectics is all recorded in the earliest of Homeopathic literature.

We need all the different systems of medicine, they are of value to keep each other straight. But all of them should be more liberal and less prejudiced. There is much prejudice of Eclectics against several old remedies, such as arsenic, mercury and potassium iodide but still most of them use all these remedies. Potassium iodide has a wide range of usefulness, and is our best inorganic alterative, while berberis aquifolium is our best organic alterative. In amblyopia from lead poisoning, potassium iodide is of value.

It has been stated that ten grains of potassium iodide at bed-time at the onset of an acute cold in the head will cut the attack short, and it is also of value in chronic colds. It is generally well known that a large dose of calcium iodized is of value in colds, and it should be remembered it has little or no





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advantage of potassium iodide. If the physician does not wish to give the potassium iodide alone, some appropriate combination can be found in this article.

Potassium iodide is used in actinomycosis. Potter says: "Potassium iodide in full doses of 80 grains daily at first, diminished as its physiological effect is produced is promptly curative, acting probably by augmenting tissue resistance. This drug has cured six human cases in Holland and one in France, also 71 of 185 oxen so treated in Chicago." In fetid bronchitis the following is of value:

B Potassium iodide	3i
Acid nitric dil	3iii
Tinct. belladonna	3i
Acid silicylate	3i
Aqua camphor qs. ad	
Sig. Dose, one dessertspoonful in water four	
	umes a day.
The following is important in acne rosacea:	
B Potassium iodide	40 gr.
Potassium bromide	<b>3</b> i
Lig. Acd. arsen	3iss
Tinct. sumbul	3ii
Aqua camphor qs. ad	3xii
Sig. Dose, half an ounce in water after meals	
In cases of dyspnea, the following is of value	
B Potassium iodide	3i
	3iv
Tinct. lobelia	
Syr. sanguinaria	<b>3</b> i
M. Sig. Dose, one teaspoonful every hour.	
In many cases of asthma, the following is of	
B Fld ext. grindelia	3iv
Fld. ext. lobelia	3ii
Fld. ext. belladonna	3i
Potassium iodide	3iii
Glycerine	<b>Ziii</b>
M. Sig. Dose, a dessertspoonful as required	
Again the following can be used in many ca	
B Ext. stramonium	
Potassium iodide	
Ammonium carbonate	
Tinct. lobelia	
Aqua chloroform qs ad	
Ft. mistura	
Sig. Dose, one tablespoonful every four to	six hours.

The following is a valuable anti-syphilitic and scrofula com-

pound:

B	Fld. ext. corydalis	3iv
	Fld. ext. stillingia	
	Fld. ext. alnus	-!
	Fld. ext. podophyllum aa	3i
	Fld. ext. kalmia lat	
	Potassium iodide	3iv
	Simple syrup qs ad	

Sig. Dose, one teaspoonful after each meal. The amount can be increased or decreased, as needed to keep the bowels well open. The late Dr. Ball said: "I have absolutely cured dozens of cases of syphilis with the above and it is permanent." If desired, berberis aquifolium can be used in the place of the kalmia.

The above is a valuable compound in many diseases of the liver, such as torpid liver, biliousness, etc. It is of much value in constipation, etc. Various skin diseases can be benefitted by its use, such as eczema, etc. I consider it a very important compound.

### SOME LETTERS TO DR. G. W. FINCH.

Within the past few days I have received a long letter from George E. Munson of Adams Center, New York. Mr. Munson was an early friend of myself, having been born in the same village in the extreme northwest of Ohio, and often accompanied me in my rambles through the forests of that section of country lying between the St. Joseph and Tifin rivers, in search of plants and botanical specimens

Mr. Munson does not seem to have forgotten his inclinations, for having heard that I was making a collection of seeds and plants for a medical botanical garden in Southern California, he not only sends a small package of seeds, mostly of the Composite Order, but offers to collect and forward whatever may be desired from the region in which he now lives, which is not far from the Thousand Islands, New York.

A letter accompanied by a series of illustrations was also received from Mrs. Ida Belmar Camp of Caro, Michigan, who is one of the greatest collectors of Cacti in the world. Mrs. Camp began as a child the study, collection and cultivation of this strange order of plants, and is now the possessor of the largest private collection in the United States. Every part of the world in which cactus grows has contributed to her gardens. The total number of varieties has reached more than 7000, while she has many rare and grotesque forms of this strange order.

### ECLECTICISM IN MEDICINE.

L. A. PERCE, M.D., Long Beach, California.

Much has been written regarding the different views held by members of the medical profession, who are actuated independently, and collectively, by the method of learning governing the particular school or system in which they pursued their studies, and yet all must travel largely the same paths so far as pertains to the grosser studies of the subjects fitting them for the honorable position of dealing with that which most interests them with whom they come in contact, that of caring for one's body. The study of the human living organism must of necessity be universal and similar, even as must the application of surgical methods, for all of these must be based upon the construction of and relation of parts. So no vast difference of opinion can hold regarding the first and active principles of a medical education.

This being true we must look farther for grounds upon which to base our assertion and build our structure of Eclecticism. If all who chose this profession were to be surgeons solely, no sects or isms could flourish, as each one would, or could be influenced and guided only by his or her particular mechanical ability, only differing from the other in their method of doing the same thing, so far as they were able, the end to be accomplished by the same measures. Therefore Eclecticism in medicine must be confined to the firm, clearer studies This is the particular subof drug relation to disease. ject to which I desire to call your attention. The study of Materia Medica and Therapeutics of today is represented by the principle of the three divisions of a triangle, yet we will deal only with one, that which we represent. Eclecticism in medicine has done much for the sick and greatly benefitted those who stand in the relation of dispensers of a medium of relief for those who have become afflicted.

There are those who have been led to look upon Eclecticism as an odium, fouling those who have laid their hands upon such a system. Others who have at sometime tasted of the benefits of this system, have grown to feel they were unclean, and must purge themselves of it and have openly disavowed their adherence to such sectionatism and presumed they have cleansed their existence from some blighting curse, and yet the thing does not die. Such are generally found to be lacking from the start in that which goes to make up the firm principle of an Eclectic in medicine. The closer study of drug action, based upon a clear understanding of the manifestations of a diseased condition with the clearest general knowledge of the effect of

such relation must be held to be equally desired by all, and yet this important, fundamental principle is sorely neglected.

The study of drug relation as revealed to us seems to me to be far in advance of many who constantly hold there is no certainty in medicine or that it is not based upon the principles of science. When we so far forget our particular interests in the finer, better application of remedies to some particular part of the human body just so soon do we retrograde. The active living truth of Eclecticism is founded upon our theory of drug action, which is based upon the positive effects of a remedy, not for some particular disease but upon some particular pathological change made manifest by a certain train of symptoms which leads one to readily recognize either a construction wrong or a mechanical error—this being founded upon the basis of a splendid system of impoved method of studying remedial formations. Eclecticism is purely a corrected idea of a direct therapy builded upon a foundation of Materia Medica, which gives to its advocates the security of actual results, when applied with a knowledge of pathological necessities and full understanding of such relations. The success of Eclecticism depends principally upon the therapeutics of medicine and stands firmly fixed as a positive system of drug application and all this is based upon the closest study of drug action.

Any man can find fault with and detect flaws in the fabric of any method of action based upon the teachings of men and present very good arguments why they assume such a position, yet this one will be no benefactor to those he may wish to teach or lead, unless he can point out and establish something better, to which they may give their confidence with the fuller knowledge of facts by which they shall be governed. Many methods in the earlier days sprang into existence to correct the manifest short comings of the medical practice then in vogue, but all were founded upon a change only, which was not based upon a positive knowledge of relation of drug action upon diseased conditions, consequently were of no value and actually worked harm to those who finally brought into existence this firm, clearer conception of Eclecticism. Then men not only saw the unfitness of the older system, and openly proclaimed it to be so, but carefully promulgated and established a system which today stands in the relation of not only giving us a clearer conception of therapeutical application but stands in the honorable position of bringing into a clearer atmosphere of medical knowledge, and a safer relation of drug application, even those who have always held it unprofessional and unclean. You hear many men of medicine shouting in terms of agony of soul that there should be no sects in medicine, even going so far as to be willing that we

should come into their folds, even irregular as we are, to be swallowed, and digested at their discretion. No! The very necessity which called into being the Eclecticism of the past, must of equal necessity require the careful nursing of the Electicism of the present which with the rapid growth that shall still follow in our train will lead up in the magnificent Eclecticism of the future, when all men who care for our sick and afflicted shall be fully influenced by Eclecticism in Medicine.

### LOBELIA INFLATA.

W. LEMING, M.D., Lexington, Ky.

The original study made by "The Eclectic League for Drug Research" on the drug Lobelia, confirms and suggests the following specific indications for its use:

- 1. A sense of dyspnoea over the chest and heart.
- 2. A fullness and atonicity of tissue, doughiness.
- 3. Spasmodic and congestive conditions, local and general.
- 4. Cough, with or without glandular secretion, with above indications.
- 5. Shock to the vital forces; collapse. (hypodermic use.)
- 6. Toxaemias; diphtheria, membranous croup, tetanus, (hypodermic use.)
- 7. Nerve excitation; morphinism. (hypodermic use.)

Administered hypodermically, not one report mentions nausea or emesis as a result.

In diphtheria, Dr. G. T. Fuller, Ky., considers it a coming

drug, equal to and safer than antitoxin.

Dr. W. P. Best, Indianapolis, reports its hypodermic use in a child three days old (premature) apparently dying; resuscitation and improvement were immediate but death occurred later from inanition. Given hypodermically in a severe case of quinsy, the pain was relieved and the patient asleep in twenty minutes, the first rest in several days. Dr. Ralph Taylor, Ohio, considers it a nerve sedative hypodermically, safe and unproductive of emesis in any dose.

One doctor claims it is valuable in morphinism.

Dr. G. W. Holmes, Fla., gave one dram with Veratrum Vir. night and morning, per rectum, in a child inoculated with tetanus, after chloral, bromides and gelsemium had failed. Improvement was marked in 24 hours with gradual recovery.

Dr. V. A. Baker, Mich., regards it by mouth as a great

febrifuge, a panacea, useful in fever complications.

It did no good in a case of collapse after an operation for purulent appendicitis, but no nausea supervened.

It was successfully administered in a case of membranous crop. Injections into inflamed inguinal buboes prevented suppuration in two out of three instances, and limited the pus focus

in the third. No nausea or after pain.

The pulse was strengthened and slowed for the time being in a case of tachycardia, effects from its continued use not being determined. Ten drop doses by mouth stimulated labor pains rather than nausea. Dr. J. P. Morrill, Ky., uses one dram to a pint of hot water as a local agent to the perineum in the second stage of labor.

All reports speak of its usefulness in congestive and spasmodic conditions of the heart and lungs, accompanied by pain and unpleasant sensations. Not one bad effect was reported from its use hypodermically. The dose hypodermically ranged from ten to sixty drops; by mouth, one to sixty as indicated.

### "AFTER POE-A LONG WAY."

Once upon a midnight dreary
The doctor slumbered weak and weary,
And all the town could hear
Him snore.

While he lay there sweetly napping, Suddenly there came a tapping, Like a ram-goat madly rapping, His hard head upon

The door.

"Get thee up!" a voice said loudly, "Come in haste," it added proudly, Like a man who owned a million Or much more.

But the doctor never heeded,
Back to dreamland fast he speeded,
For such men as that he needed
In his practice
Nevermore.

For long months that man had owed him, Not a cent he'd ever paid him, And the doctor now will dose him Nevermore.

### SURGICIAL SUGGESTIONS.

"Nose-picking" may result in a perforation of the septum.

-American Journal of Surgery.

Torticollis after adenoidectomy means a post-operative infection.—American Journal of Surgery.

If on transillumination the maxillary antra are dark, it does not necessarily mean that pus is present. Thick granulations may be covering the antral wall.—American Journal of Surgery.

Pain and swelling of the tip of the nose, is often caused by an infection of the hair follicles in the vestibule.—American Journal of Surgery.

An infection of the hair follicles of the nose is quickly relieved by the application of a 1% salve of yellow oxid of mercury.

—American Journal of Surgery.

A foreign body in the nose of a child is often suggested by a discharge of mucus from one side only.—American Journal of Surgery.

Hard foreign bodies in the nose may sometimes be removed, where other means fail, by wiping the cavity and foreign body dry and applying sealing wax attached to cotton.—American Journal of Surgery.

Polypi are not merely cystic tumors—they often spring from a base of diseased bone. Removing the polypi does not cure the disease; the affected bone necessarily must be removed.

—American Journal of Surgery.

Small clinging pieces of adenoid tissue which have not been removed by the curette will very likely set up an inflammatory reaction on the posterior pharyngeal wall which is more distressing than the adenoids themselves.—American Journal of Surgery.

One should not rely on feeling a tonsil engaged in a tonsillitome; he should see that it is if he does not wish to take the chance of cutting away the pillars of the fauces, a portion of the tongue, the floor of the mouth or the uvula.—American Journal of Surgery.

# THE CALIFORNIA ECLECTIC MEDICAL JOURNAL

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### ANATOMICAL ANOMALIES.

We beg to assure the reader that we have no intention of entering into a discussion of the origin or evolution of man. For our present purpose, it is sufficient that he is here, and that we, as physicians, are intently engaged in the study of his physical makeup.

It has been suggested that in pursuing this study, we place beside the person studied a mental picture of a perfect man. This is well said, especially the mental part, for the perfect physical man does not exist in actuality and the picture is necessarily a mental one. To some this statement may seem a little overdrawn, but we insist that it is true and that it cannot be stated too strongly. Recall for a moment the great effort that a sculptor will make to find a woman whose body is sufficiently perfect to serve as a foundation or skeleton upon which to build a Venus; and then remember that he sees only the surface, the interior being to him a sealed book. However, let us assume that he discovers a model which appears perfect to him, for then we may consider what will be the findings when her special senses and vital organs are critically examined. Will she have astigmatism or color blindness; will her auditory mechanism be equal to the best; will the nasal septum be straight and in the median line, and will her vocal organs be so placed that she will have even a good voice? Again, will her blood vessels, muscles and nerves each be found in its proper place and of faultless construction? Also her stomach, her kidneys, her generative organs, will each of these be found of proper size and construction and in its proper place? Again we aver that

the physically perfect man does not exist.

Since we find that, upon ultimate analysis, what we call a normal body must be abnormal in many of its parts, does it necessarily follow that such a body cannot lead a comfortable and useful existence? In how many parts may a body be abnormal and the whole still be considered normal? The answer to this question can only be determined by estimating the total handicap of the defects of each. And in so doing we must not forget that art can many times correct the faults of nature. For example, the horizon of a myopic person is near at hand, it surrounds him like a clinging fog. Beyond is the great wide world, but he sees it not. He has a handicap which he cannot overcome; for there are many things which he cannot do. But let science fit him with a pair of glasses and behold, he is as other men. He meets them on an equal footing. Or, suppose the eye defect is a minor one which causes eye strain. There is headache, neurasthenia, malaise, poor health, in short, an inability to carry a man's load at whatever he is trying to do. Nature has given him a formidable handicap; but science removes it. Sometimes nature gives a man an auditory mechanism which is so defective that he cannot hear certain tones; or his sense of smell may be so defective that various odors are unknown to him. Almost every person has anesthetic areas on the body; and there are many who cannot tell the difference in taste between an onion and an apple.

The bone and muscle construction is also of importance. Nature must build the strong man like the draught horse and the runner like a race horse; and a little defect makes either unfit. But let us consider the vital organs—the parts which make life a joy when they perform their proper functions, but a curse when they are unequal to the task. All of us have babies with defective hearts which gave up struggle within a few hours and yet others which lasted for a decade or so, making the owner a semi-invalid. not these have had weak spots in their arteries as well? not any person be born with weak arteries and eventually develop an aneurism of a large trunk, or a number of small aneurisms in the brain, the kidneys, the liver, the stomach, anywhere in fact? Such defects being both difficult to recognize and to remedy, they would prove a formidable handicap to their possessor. Many babies are born with a defective alimentary

tract and they usually succumb within a few months. A few of these reach mature years, but a gastroptosis means a poorly nourished body and the absorption of the complex toxines of a well-fed garbage barrel. The struggle for even existence is a fierce one, and it never ceases until the toxines win. Some persons are born with a kidney insecurely attached, and unless there is a conpensatory reformation of the blood vessels and the ureter, its function is seriously disturbed when the organ becomes a "floating kidney." Many boys are born with a long or tight foreskin which produces a long train of ills. Many girls are born with long utero-sacral ligaments which allows the cervix to go forward and the fundus backward; producing a retroverted uterus without the aid of violence of any kind. Such a person is born but to be ill. Many persons of both sexes have obvious hernias and not a few have obscure varieties diagnosed after death. Many other defects of nature might be cited, and there are doubtless many that we know not of, but these are sufficient. In each defect noted, the handicap of nature is a formidable one until it is removed by science. abnormality of the part is so great that the whole body becomes abnormal. But with the defect corrected the abnormal part becomes normal, and the whole body likewise becomes normal. If it were possible to correct all imperfections of construction, each of us might have a perfect body. But so far, only the most obvious and insistent ones have been considered. There is much original work to be done, for the land has only been explored along the main rivers. When we think of how much has been accomplished along these lines in the last score of years, we feel the encouragement to try yet again.

#### THERAPEUTIC FACTS.

(Extracts from the address of Doctor Boskowitz at the inauguration of the Brooklyn Therapeutic Society).

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Brooklyn Therapeutic Society: It is with pleasure that I respond to your invitation to address you this evening, and I wish to congratulate you and to predict for your society a full measure of success, for the study of therapeutics will soon become the fad of our rivals. They will tire before long of their hunt for bacterial vaccines and suddenly you will find that one of the great European authorities will discover and formulate a new system of direct medication; that he will announce to the world that drugs have a selective affinity and will act better when administered in small and broken doses, and that the green drug extracts made by a cold distillation process possess qualities never before thought of.

He will be hailed as a great man and millions of lives will be saved that are to-day sacrificed on the altar of therapeutic nihilism.

It is a wise move, gentlemen, to have started this society for the study of therapeutics, and success and scientific progress will follow its inauguration if you will but give your attention to the obtaining of therapeutic facts, no matter what their source—whether from the laboratory experience of experimenters who claim to have the only scientific knowledge, or from the bedside observer, whose system is called empiric, but whose facts are gathered by observing the effects of drugs upon the sick human being, who gives you facts without knowing the modus operandi.

Give to the empirical observer as much attention as you do to the laboratory experimenter, for the basic facts in therapeutics have in reality been gathered from the observations of careful men. For example, castor oil has been found to move the bowels with a precision which is remakable. But what about its scientific or physiological action?

Hare in his book, "Practical Therapeutics," published in 1901, says of castor oil under "Physiological Action:" "The manner in which castor oil purges is somewhat in doubt." Under therapeutics he says: "Its action is so regular that it can almost be used as a time piece."

You, as a society, should continue to gather facts in therapeutics and study and restudy this vast materia medica, for the half is not yet known.

The old remedy, lobelia, for the use of which the pioneers were abused, and which we modern Eclectics thought we well understood, both as to action and indication, has been introduced but recently in a new field.

Dr. Jentzsch, of Chicago, a careful observing man, records his observation of it when introduced hypodermically and gives us the knowledge of its powerful influence on the system in conditions of blood poisoning. He cannot tell us how it acts, but gives us the facts, reporting over 100 cases of diphtheria treated by this method without a single death.

How valuable—how far-reaching such a fact! Many of our vegetable remedies will be found to possess certain qualities not at present thought of, when administered in this manner.

Your society may, before long, be able to give us some facts along these lines. Every member should be active in this work. In the administration and study of remedies, observe with care, record with minute precision, and compare frequently when you meet your experiences, and you will soon have thera-

peutic facts to present to the world that will be a benefit to humanity, and which will, without doubt, make you all famous.

And now before closing I will quote from some recent old school literature which shows very plainly the trend of the profession so far as this subject is concerned, and the eagerness with which every thought on therapeutics will be sought for and indications for the application of drugs to meet pathological conditions in individual cases, the Mecca, rather than to prescribe for a pneumonia, typhoid, etc. In the New York State Journal of Medicine, September, 1908, among the editorials under the caption, "Delayed Therapy" we find the following:

"May we not ask ourselves the question: Are we not too often belated in our therapeutics? If a lesion is due to the absorption of ptomain-like products, are there not symptoms due to the present of these products before an anatomic lesion has developed, and is not that condition to be treated in preference to the anatomic lesion?

"For many years following the advancements of pathological anatomy we treated the lesion. Now the study of pathological physiology has taken us a step farther back. We must now shake off the yoke of the tryannical doctrine which, by making of disease a consequence of the lesion, has greatly ham-

pered our therapeutic activity."

And then under "Proprietary Preparations" we find this: "Proprietary preparations will be much less in vogue when students in medicine are taught therapeutics in the same serious spirit that they are taught the other branches of medicine. If the student has not well in hand his therapeutics when he leaves college, he falls an easy victim to the ready-made prescription habit. It is an unfortunate commentary upon the general practitioner of medicine that it is he who is made to keep alive the proprietary business in the same manner that the general public is made to keep alive the patent medicine evil. Both are made dupes of commercial interest."

In Blair's "Practitioner's Hand Book of Materia Medica and Therapeutics," published by the Medical Council Co., of Philadelphia, Pa., Dr. Blair, the author, who is a member of the old school societies from county to national, and a member of the visiting staff of the Harrisburg City Hospital, in his chapter on Pharmacy, says the following: "Many of the therapeutic actions in small doses cannot be obtained with fluid extracts and tinctures made in the usual way," and then he recommends Lloyd's tinctures, and of them he says: "Their great activity is readily explained since they are made usually of plants in their green or recent state, and the process employed in making them varies with the substance used, but is

usually a combined maceration and percolation with the aid of ingenious concentrating apparatus in which heat is not employed."

In referring to the therapy of the drug and the collection of the facts concerning it he has this to say: "Definite symptomology and direct actions rather than purely laboratory data are given and the actions upon man excluding those based upon experimental studies upon the lower animals are alone referred to."—Eclectic Review.

### SOME THOUGHTS ON EXPERT TESTIMONY.

By G. HENRI BOGART, M.D., Brookville, Ind.

How often have we stood in the court room and heard the medical expert tell how, and why, certain positions were unassailable, quoting authority after authority, until his dictum seemed as that of the Medes and Persians. But when the other fellow got his innings, how different it all seemed, even to us, professionally able to weigh it all. How much more so then to the layman on the jury with heavy questions of life and its interests to determine, and no special knowledge to enable him to weigh the conflicting opinions.

I have served for the State in various murder cases, to help break down hackneyed insanity defense pleas, and always with

considerable self-congratulation.

I have served as the coroner of this county, for the past fourteen years and a case that occurred on February 15th, 1903, somewhat changed my certitude in such matters. F. G. and his wife had one child, a daughter who was married to J. P., the two families living and farming together. The older man determined to sell his large farm, which was located in a rough, hilly section and buy a small farm near town, for himself, and a larger place for the son-in-law, but the younger man, with persistence amounting almost to an insanity, opposed moving from the place.

On the evening of the 14th, the two men were at the village store and quarreled loudly, threatening each other with violence. This happened in the presence of a dozen or more neighbors.

The next morning they arose early and went to the barn, while the women prepared breakfast. The older man was to go that day and close the purchase of the new farms. He came in when breakfast was called but the younger man did not. After the meal, he went to the barn to get his buggy and the daughter accompanied him to attend to the milking. As she passed round the barn, she discovered her husband leaning against a straw stack and shot in five places.

He was removed to the house, myself and Dr. Calvin

Carter of Brookville being summoned.

The wounds were inflicted with a 32 caliber bulldog revolver. One bullet penetrated the stomach and fractured the body of the tenth dorsal vertebra, one glanced from a rib and ploughed around the line of the rib into the muscles of the back, one entered the throat to the left of the larynx, imbedding itself in the body of the sixth cervical vertebra. Another entered the face to the left of the wing of the nose and crashed through the bones into the sphenoid, while the fifth entered the left temporal region and passed directly through the head. At the point of exit there was a lump of exuded brain matter as large as a pigeon egg. The pistol was a new one and we have never been able to ascertain whence it came. It was found sticking in the muddy ground, thirty feet from the victim.

Here were all the elements of a first degree murder charge against the older man. I would have gone unhesitatingly on the witness stand and sworn that I did not believe from the nature and severity of the wounds, that it was possible for them to have been self-inflicted and I think that a majority of my readers would have done the same thing. However, by ten o'clock the wounded man had recovered from the shock sufficiently to talk, though the wound in the throat rendered speech slow and difficult. He dictated to me a statement of how he had shot himself, rather than move from the place that had grown so dear to him.

The shots had been inflicted in the order given.

The third one, in the throat, had "numbed" his right hand and he had changed the weapon to the left to inflict the two shots in the head and then when he realized that it was empty, The man lived, he hurled the pistol from him in disgust. conscious and seemingly without pain until 11:00 at night when he swifty passed into collapse and died. Nothing on earth except his phenomenal vitality had saved the innocent old man from conviction and punishment for first degree murder. Not only has my own narrow escape from prosecuting the innocent man in this case, badly wrecked my belief in the reliability of expert testimony, but it has altered many of my ideas as to the practice of medicine. Do we not attach too little importance to the different idiosyncracies of patients? Do we not get somewhat rimbound as to the certainty of symptom and dosage? Are there not some points in physiological, as well as the pathological, action which display wide abnormalities, for which we cannot account?

I have a man in the county jail, at the present time, on a first degree murder charge. He shot his wife through the left lung, three weeks ago, with a rifle, and she was dead when we broke into the house, a few minutes after. He shot himself through the left lung with the same gun, and twice in the left

temporal region. The thoracic wound ranged down and back from a point near the left nipple, the bullet being cut out just beneath the skin below the shoulder blade. One bullet bored a pretty round hole through the skull and is somewhere within the cranium. This man has had no shock, no unconsciousness, and the respiration and circulation have remained normal. The temperature has not varied more than three degrees from normal and that only on two occasions.

Why is this man so immune from any of the results that we would have looked for? Both these cases are matters of record with the clerk of the court here at Brookville.—Medical Era.

### SOCIETY CALENDAR.

National Eclectic Medical Association meets in Chicago, Ill., June, 1909. J. K. Scudder, M. D., Cincinnati, Ohio, President; W. P. Best, M. D., Indianapolis, Ind., Secretary.

Eclectic Medical Society of the State of California, meets May, 1909. J. A. Munk, M.D., Los Angeles Cal., President: J. Park Dougall, M. D., Douglas Bldg., Los Angeles, Secretary.

Southern California Eclectic Medical Association meets in Los Angeles in May, 1909. E. R. Harvey, M. D., Long Beach, President; A. P. Baird, M. D., Auditorium Bldg., Los Angeles, Secretary.

Los Angeles County Eclectic Medical Society meets at 8 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. Dr. L. A. Perce, Long Beach, Cal., President; Dr. P. M. Welbourn, 818 Security Building, Los Angeles, Secretary.

#### LOS ANGELES COUNTY ECLECTIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The regular monthly meeting of the Los Angeles County Eclectic Medical Society was held on Tuesday evening, March 2nd, 1909, at Dr. Solomon's office, 308 Wilcox Building.

There was an unusually large attendance, and after disposing of the regular routine business, Dr. Dougall read an excellent and most entertaining paper on "Urinalysis." This paper was freely and thoroughly discussed and different members reported clinical experiences dealing with the various kidney lesions.

Dr. Hubbard reported his experience in treating Ovarian Neuralgia.

Dr. Solomon was appointed to read the essay at the next meeting which will be held at Dr. Solomon's office on Tuesday evening, April 6th, 1909.

Dr. L. A. Perce, President. Dr. P. M. Welbourn, Secretary

### NEWS ITEMS.

Dr. Hanna Scott Turner, Pomona, has been quite ill for several weeks as the result of a neglected cold.

Dr. J. A. Munk made two visits to Sacramento this past month on business regarding medical legislation.

The regular meeting of the California State Board of Medical Examiners will be held in San Francisco on April 6th, 7th, and 8th.

Mrs. Chandler, wife of Dr. Chas M. Chandler, Salt Lake city, died in Long Beachon March 7th. They were spending the winter at the sea shore because of Mrs Chandler's ill health. The body was taken to Salt Lake City for burial.

Dr. W. T. Waugh, 1424 E. Ravenswood Park, Chicago, is collecting material for a paper on atropine as a hemostatic and would be pleased to have notes of experience from our readers. He desires adverse reports as well as those favoring the remedy.

Dr. C. W. Ray, Mountain Lake, Minnesota, who has been making a short visit in Southern California has gone home but expects to return in a short time and locate here. The doctor has a license in this state, consequently the State Board has no terrors for him.

We hope our many friends have noted that the Journal has been admitted as second class mail matter.

Dr. T. J. Peterson, Lompoc, has some medical books that he would be pleased to exchange for a good microscope.

The California Eclectic Medical Society meets in San Francisco on May 25, 26 and 27, 1909. It is hoped and expected that every member will be present and lend his aid in making this meeting a record breaker.

- Dr. J. A. Miller, Brawley, California, desires to retire from the active practice of medicine. He would like to establish a young Eclectic in his community as he is the only Eclectic in the county. The doctor has nothing to sell but would use all his influence to help a new man to get acquainted.
- Dr. C. P. Higgins who has been ill for some time died on March 19. The funeral was held March 22 at 3 p.m. Cremation at Rosedale Cemetery.

The Medical Department of the University of Southern California has become affiliated with the Medical Department of the University of California located in Berkeley. Beginning with 1910 only the Junior and Senior sessions will be held in Los Angeles and two years college work will be required for admission to the freshman year.

The Eclectic Medical Society of the State of New York met in Albany on March 10, and 11, at which time Dr. R. L. Watkins delivered an interesting lecture on "Tuberculosis in the Blood." Dr. Watkins' ideas are at variance with commonly accepted ideas of the spread and origin of tuberculosis, believing the bacilli to be a result rather than a cause of the disease.

The Journal has a number of medical books, which are slightly damaged from shipping, but are not second hand, which will be disposed of at a great reduction in price. If any one is interested the Journal will be pleased to furnish a list of the books with the reduced price list, upon request.

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#### CARD OF THANKS:

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#### J. Park Dougall, M.D.,

Dear Doctor: On behalf of the California Eclectic Medical College, we wish to extend our thanks to you in consideration of your recent contribution, to the college, of the fine cabinet of Photomicrographs.

We appreciate your gift, not alone on account of its real value, nor because it will be an undoubted factor in the teaching of Bacteriology, but most highly because it represents your own work, well done.

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#### READING NOTICES.

Druggists doing a large prescription business report a phenomenal increase in the demand for granular effervescent aperients. There are any number of these upon the market of various grades of efficiency; but physicians seem to prefer the simple salts, prescriptions calling for sulphate of magnesia and sodium phosphate outnumbering materially those demanding compounds. of known or partially secret character. Saline Laxative (Abbott) seems to be regarded as the representative preparation of magnesium sulphate and as it is even stronger than the official magnesii sulphas effervescens and decidedly pleasant to take, it is very generally given the preference.

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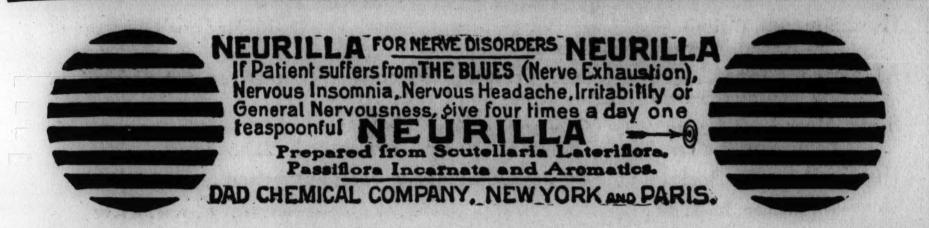
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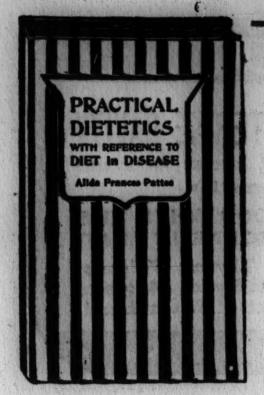
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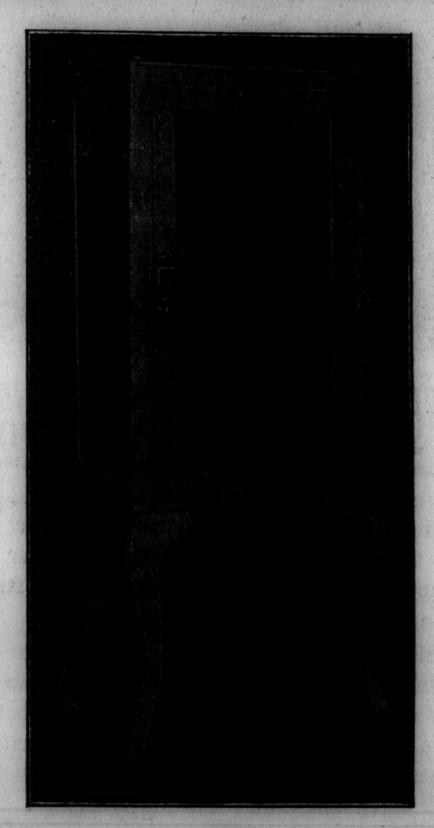
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